

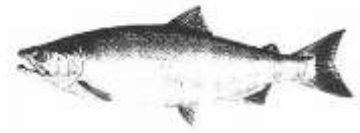
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES



NEWS RELEASE

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Lower Cook Inlet Salmon Fishery News Release #13

SOUTHERN DISTRICT: Waters of the China Poot Subdistrict excluding the China Poot SHA, and waters of the Halibut Cove Subdistrict, excluding Halibut Cove Lagoon, remain open to commercial salmon **purse seine harvest** on a regular schedule of two 64-hour fishing periods per week, from 6:00 a.m. Monday until 10:00 p.m. Wednesday, and from 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 10:00 p.m. Saturday until further notice.

The China Poot SHA is defined in 5 AAC 21.373 as, "the marine waters of the China Poot Bay Subdistrict in the Southern District shoreward of and enclosed by a line from 59° 34.66' N. lat., 151° 19.27' W. long., to 59° 35.08' N. lat., 151° 19.77' W. long., to 59° 33.09' N. lat., 151° 25.22' W. long., to 59°32.84' N. lat., 151° 24.90' W. long.;"

Also within the Southern District, waters of the Barabara Creek Subdistrict, the Tutka Bay Subdistrict, the Halibut Cove Subdistrict and the Seldovia Bay Subdistrict remain open to commercial salmon **set gillnet harvest** on a regular schedule of two 48-hour fishing periods per week, from 6:00 a.m. Monday until 6:00 a.m. Wednesday, and from 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 6:00 a.m. Saturday until further notice.

The portion of the Port Graham Hatchery Special Harvest Area (SHA) within 500 feet of shore, from 59°21.23'N. lat., 151°50.13'W. long. to 59°20.82'N. lat., 151°48.63' W. long., including the waters of Duncan Slough and Tulcan Slough was opened to **subsistence gillnet harvest** at 6:00 AM on Friday, July 6 and remains open until 10:00 PM, Sunday, July 8. This fishery is targeting hatchery returns from the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (CIAA) release of 112,000 sockeye salmon at this site in 2009. Subsistence fishing in the English Bay section remains CLOSED, as does fishing in all other areas of the Port Graham section. This portion of the Port Graham Hatchery SHA will reopen to subsistence harvest at 6:00 AM on Monday, July 9 and will remain open until 10:00 PM. Sunday, July 15.

Sockeye salmon returns to English Bay Lakes remain depressed with only 2,303 counted at the weir as of July 5, versus a minimum count of 4,718 by this day that would be required to meet the minimum final Sustainable Escapement Goal of 6,000 sockeye salmon for this system. Historically on average 77% of the final weir passage had been counted by July 5.

Preliminary commercial harvest to date from the Southern District is shown below,

Period			Sockeye			Chinook			Chum			Pink		
Pd. #	Dates	Del.	10-yr avg.	2011 harvest	2012 harvest	10-yr avg.	2011 harvest	2012 harvest	10-yr avg.	2011 harvest	2012 harvest	10-yr avg.	2011 harvest	2012 harvest
1	6/1 - 6/2	6	158	1,214	429	31	15	5	6	20	15	---	0	0
2	6/4 - 6/6	7	1,278	700	519	100	9	7	18	16	6	---	0	0
3	6/7 - 6/9	7	894	287	615	90	11	7	28	24	33	---	0	0
4	6/11 - 6/13	9	1,491	707	465	72	16	16	51	27	76	---	0	0
5	6/14 - 6/16	6	903	292	218	55	9	3	47	7	18	---	0	0
6	6/18 - 6/20	8	1,634	382	635	57	6	5	88	16	35	27	0	0
7	6/21 - 6/23	5	1,003	1,269	414	41	5	1	66	90	42	132	0	0
8	6/25 - 6/27	7	1,885	998	461	34	4	5	228	83	38	146	171	0
9	6/28 - 6/30	7	1,801	967	506	19	3	0	188	120	42	337	48	0
10	7/2 - 7/4	7	2,854	470	514	22	9	7	299	26	119	359	70	1
Total			13,901	7,286	4,776	521	87	56	1,019	429	424	1,001	289	1

KAMISHAK BAY DISTRICT: Waters of the Chenik Subdistrict will open to commercial seine harvest for two 16-hour periods beginning at 6:00 AM on Saturday, July 7 and at 6:00 AM on Sunday July 8. All other waters of the Kamishak Bay District **excluding** the Bruin Bay, McNeil, and Paint River subdistricts remain open on a 7-day per week schedule to commercial seine harvest.

Preliminary reports indicate that 40,000 sockeye salmon were harvested from the Chenik Subdistrict yesterday. Poor weather has moderated fishing efforts in this area.

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The SEG range for Chenik Lake is 3,500 – 14,000 fish with a midpoint of 8,750. Video counts to date are,

June 22-27	271 fish
June 27-July 1	1,498 fish
July 1-3	4,745 fish
<u>July 3-6</u>	<u>1,056 fish</u>
Total video passage	7,570 fish (as of 10:30 AM 7/6)

Hard drives will be pulled from the video cameras at Chenik Lake early next week.

OUTER and EASTERN DISTRICTS: The Delight Lake weir was installed earlier this week and has passed 1,318 fish to date. The SEG for this system is 7,500 – 17,650 sockeye salmon with a midpoint of 12,575 fish. An aerial survey of this system on June 28 documented 780 sockeye salmon in the lake and estuary. In addition 620 fish were observed in Desire Lake. The next aerial survey of systems within this district as well as Aialik Lake in the Eastern District will be conducted when observational conditions improve.

HATCHERY UPDATE: Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (CIAA) began cost recovery on Monday, May 21 in Resurrection Bay. As of June 21, a total of 79,761 sockeye salmon had been harvested. An additional 244 were harvested earlier today. Hatchery and wild broodstock escapement past the Bear Creek weir as of July 5 was 10,861 sockeye salmon. The wild stock SEG for Bear Lake is 700 – 8,300 and the Trail Lakes Hatchery broodstock goal is 4,258 sockeye salmon. The overall CIAA cost recovery goal of 1.55 million dollars was to be met using 136 thousand fish harvested from Resurrection Bay and 19 thousand from the Tutka Bay Lagoon return. Given the below anticipated return to Resurrection Bay, CIAA cost recovery will occur at the China Poot and Kirchner Lake SHAs in addition to the SHA in Tutka Bay. Anticipated sockeye salmon returns to these remote release sites are,

Kirchner Lake - 10,200 fish,
China Poot/Hazel Lake – 6,500 fish, and
Tutka Lagoon – 28,000 fish.

Compounding this, 5,028 sockeye salmon were to have been harvested from the English Bay River weir by CIAA as broodstock for Lower Cook Inlet remote releases. Given the below anticipated return to the English Bay River system, these broodstock fish will now be harvested from remote release sites listed above. Fish returning to these sites are all of Hidden Lake stock.

Commercial fishermen are reminded that all lawfully taken finfish that are retained but not sold must be reported on a fish ticket at the time of landing. Fish tickets have a not sold/home pack block to report these fish. Halibut are not legal to retain from commercial salmon seines or gillnets because these are not legal gear for halibut.

5 AAC 39.010. Retention of fish taken in a commercial fishery (a) A person engaged in commercial fishing may retain finfish from lawfully taken commercial catch for that person's own use, including for the use as bait in a commercial fishery. Finfish retained under this section may not be sold or bartered. (b) Except as otherwise specified in 5 AAC [01](#) - 5 AAC [39](#), a commercial fisherman shall report on an ADF&G fish ticket, at the time of delivery of the commercial catch, the number of steelhead retained from the commercial catch but not sold. For the purposes of this subsection, "delivery" means the offloading of the finfish for sale or for transport to a buyer for later sale.

5 AAC 39.130. Reports required of fishermen, processors, buyers, exporters, and operators of certain commercial fishing vessels; transporting requirements (C)(10) the number of fish of any species retained by a commercial fisherman for personal use as specified in 5 AAC [39.010](#);

The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be on Friday, July 13.

Announcement recordings are available on the 24-hour telephone recording in the Homer office at 907/235-7307.

Additionally, announcements, inseason harvest data, and escapement data are available at the following web address:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyarealci.salmon>

Unless otherwise specified, all openings are clock openings based on Alaska Daylight Time, which is based on Coordinated Universal Time and may be obtained by calling 303-499-7111.